



Aruban legends:
Frenchman's Pass



Enjoy one of the best views on Aruba at the
top of the Hooiberg Hill

ARUBA
T**DAY**

Tuesday
August 22, 2023

T: 582-7800
www.arubatoday.com
facebook.com/arubatoday
instagram.com/arubatoday

Rhythms Circus Company Aruba:
putting Aruba's name on the world
stage

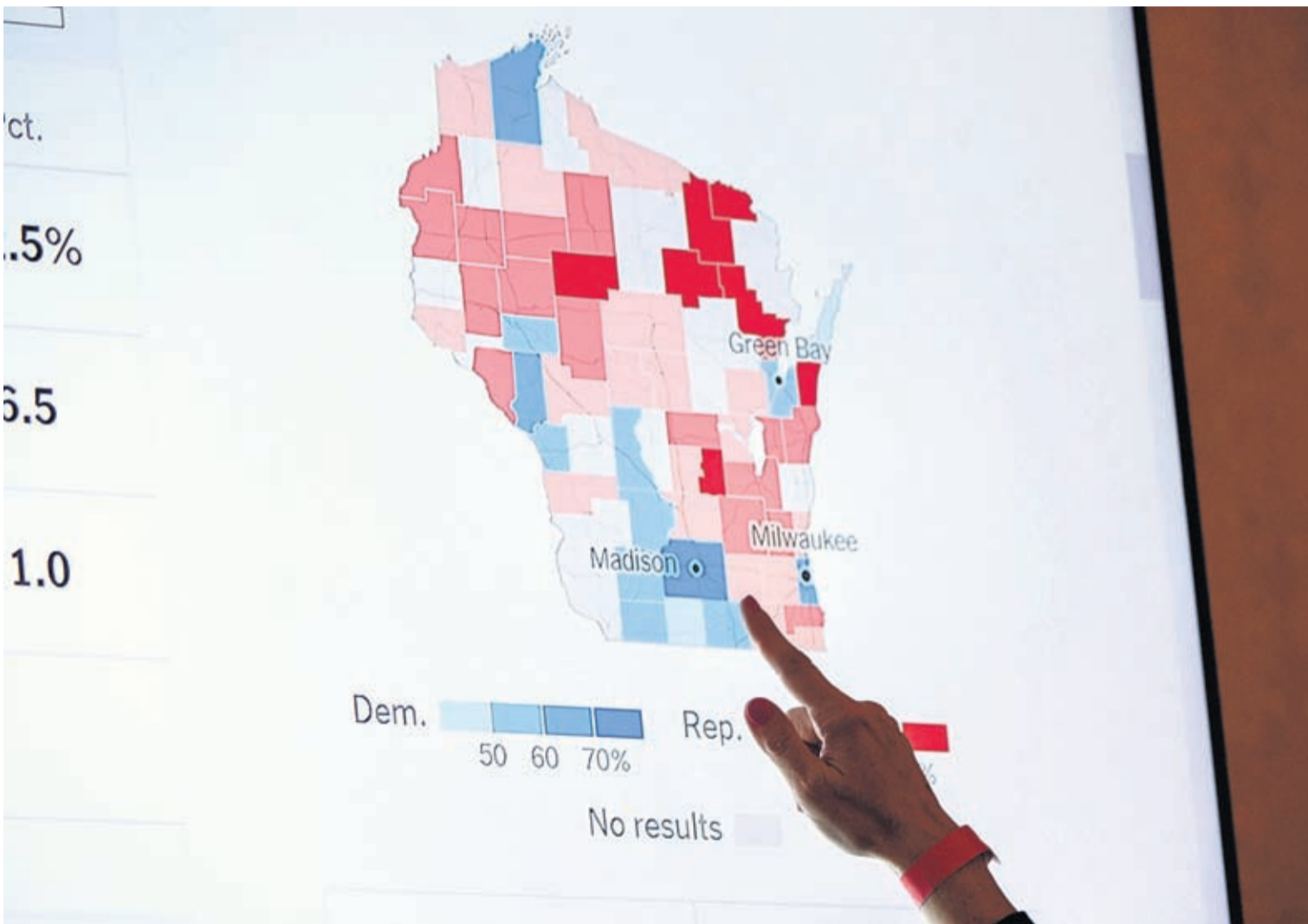


Page 8

Aruba's English news leader and ultimate guide to paradise

The GOP presidential debate puts a spotlight on Wisconsin

By SCOTT BAUER
Associated Press
MADISON, Wis. (AP) — When Republican candidates for president gather for their first debate Wednesday in Milwaukee, the spotlight will not only be on them but also on Wisconsin's role as one of a shrinking handful of genuine battleground states. Republicans chose Milwaukee for the first debate and for the national convention in just 11 months largely because of Wisconsin's well-earned status as a swing state. Four of the past six presidential elections have been decided by less than a percentage point here, with Donald Trump winning narrowly in 2016 before losing by a similar margin in 2020. "Everybody needs to be prepared for all-out war as usual," said longtime Republican strategist Stephan Thompson.









LUNCH SPECIALS

AVAILABLE EVERYDAY // 12PM - 3PM

STARTING AT ONLY **\$9**

*excludes service charge

LOCATED IN
PASO HERENCIA MALL
ACROSS THE HOLIDAY INN HOTEL

1/2 PRICE HAPPY HOUR

ON ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES



Monday - Friday 12PM - 8PM

The GOP presidential debate puts a spotlight on Wisconsin



This combination of photos shows Republican presidential candidates, top row from left, Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, former President Donald Trump, North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum and Vivek Ramaswamy, bottom row from left, former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, former Vice President Mike Pence, Miami Mayor Francis Suarez, former Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson and Perry Johnson.

Associated Press

Continued from Front

To participate in Wednesday's debate, the Republican National Committee required candidates to meet donor and polling thresholds and sign a pledge to support the GOP candidate in the general election. Trump, the front-runner who faces criminal charges in four separate cases, says he will not attend.

Those expected to be on the stage include Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina, former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy, former Vice President Mike Pence, ex-Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey, and North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum. Former Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, Miami Mayor Francis Suarez and Michigan businessman Perry Johnson also say they have met the requirements to make the stage. The official lineup is still coming together because candidates have until Monday evening to provide evidence to the RNC that they have qualified.

The first GOP primary voters will weigh in on the nomination in less than five months, when Iowa holds its Jan. 15 caucus, followed by other

early states in February. The eventual nominee is expected to face President Joe Biden in November.

Wisconsin will be one of the biggest toss-ups in the general election. It's a distinction held by a shrinking but often-shifting number of places, as former swing states like Ohio and Florida become more reliably Republican and Virginia and Colorado more Democratic. That leaves Wisconsin along with Georgia, Arizona, Pennsylvania, and Nevada as among the most competitive states that could decide the presidency.

In a sign of Wisconsin's importance, Biden traveled to Milwaukee last week to talk up his work to create manufacturing jobs. On Sunday, his campaign announced it is spending \$25 million to run ads in seven states, including Wisconsin, to counter Republicans as they debate. The ad buy includes the campaign's first investments in Hispanic and Black media, the campaign said.

Wisconsin's status as a top electoral target dates back more than 20 years.

In 2000, Democrat Al Gore carried Wisconsin by a scant 5,700 votes, or just .22% of the total votes cast. That makes Biden's win in

2020 by nearly 21,000 votes, or a .56% margin, look like a blow out. Two other races — John Kerry's .38% margin of victory in 2004 and Trump's .77% win in 2016 — were also razor close.

And there's no sign of Wisconsin becoming any less evenly divided.

Democrats have been able to chip into the once-reliably conservative Milwaukee suburbs that saw GOP support drop in the Trump era. Democrats also capitalized on population gains in Dane County, home to the liberal capital city of Madison and the University of Wisconsin.

The Democratic moves have been able to help offset Republican gains made in rural areas during the Trump era.

"Wisconsin has almost the exact mix of urban, suburban and rural populations that are needed to maintain a competitive status," said Anthony Chergosky, a University of Wisconsin-La Crosse political science professor. "It all adds up to a state that is highly contested politically but a state that does not look like it did 10, 20 or 30 years ago."

Democratic U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, whose district includes Madison, noted Republicans chose Wisconsin to be the first state

to launch its early voting effort, embracing a tactic long used by Democrats but that Trump and others in the GOP shunned and falsely asserted was rife with fraud. Trump also now is encouraging early voting.

Democrats in Wisconsin are headed into the 2024 presidential season feeling emboldened.

They have won 14 of the past 17 statewide elections, including Biden in 2020, Gov. Tony Evers in 2022 and Janet Protasiewicz in April. Her victory in the Wisconsin Supreme Court race took majority control of the court away from conservatives for the first time in 15 years, with major decisions looming on abortion access, redistricting and voting rules.

Republicans have had wins, including reelecting U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson last year, picking up a congressional seat and increasing majorities in the state Senate and Assembly. But those gains were overshadowed by the losses in the presidential, governor and Supreme Court races, Thompson said.

In addition to the presidential race, Democratic U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin is up for reelection to a third term next year. And both

sides are preparing for the possibility that the new liberal-controlled Wisconsin Supreme Court orders new legislative maps and forces every current lawmaker to stand for election.

On the presidential race, DeSantis was showing strength this summer while he struggled nationally.

Trump was favored by 31% of Republicans and Republican-leaning independents surveyed, while DeSantis was at 30% in a Marquette University Law School poll released June 29. But in a head-to-head matchup, DeSantis was favored by 57% and Trump by 41%. Since that poll was done, Trump was indicted for a third and fourth time and DeSantis shook up his campaign as he struggles to chip into Trump's support nationally.

Wisconsin Republicans are more divided on Trump than the past two times he ran. Trump's refusal to accept defeat in 2020, and his repeated lies about the outcome in Wisconsin and calls to decertify the results, alienated him from many top Republicans.

"He's kind of like a warm beer," the Democrat Pocan said of Trump. "He's not exactly what we strive for here in the state. I just don't think there's a lot of growth potential for him should he be the Republican nominee."

DeSantis, during a July fundraising swing to Wisconsin, attracted more than a dozen Republican state lawmakers to an event, including former Gov. Tommy Thompson, former Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch and Tim Michels, the 2022 Republican candidate for governor. The hosts included Republican mega-donors Dick and Liz Uihlein, who donated to efforts to get Trump elected in 2016 and 2020.

"Wisconsin Republicans are going to think about one, is this somebody who can beat Trump in a primary and two, can they beat Biden?" Thompson said. "At the end of the day, people here just want to win. Plain and simple." □

Female soldiers in Army special operations face rampant sexism

By LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Female soldiers face rampant sexism, harassment and other gender-related challenges in male dominated Army special operations units, according to a report Monday, eight years after the Pentagon opened all combat jobs to women.

U.S. Army Special Operations Command, in a lengthy study, reported a wide range of "overtly sexist" comments from male soldiers, including a broad aversion to females serving in commando units. The comments, it said, are "not outliers" but represent a common sentiment that women don't belong on special operations teams.

"The idea that women are equally as physically, mentally and emotionally capable to perform majority of jobs is quite frankly ridiculous," said one male commenter. Others said they'd quit before serving on a team with a female, and that serving in such a situation it would create problems and jealousy among their wives.

The blunt and sometimes crass comments ring familiar to many who have watched the difficult transition as women moved into the military's front line combat jobs. And they paint a disturbing, challenging picture for leaders.

The exhaustive report surveyed more than 5,000 people assigned to Army special operations forces units, including 837 female troops, 3,238 male troops and the rest defense civilians.

It revealed that "the vast majority" of the negative attitudes toward women serving in special operations "unfortunately did come from senior noncommissioned officers. So it does seem to indicate that it is generational," Command Sgt. Maj. JoAnn Naumann, the most senior enlisted soldier in the command, said in a call with reporters Monday about the findings.

However the negative sentiments revealed the 2023 report echo sharp opposi-



Female soldiers from 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division train on a firing range while testing new body armor in Fort Campbell, Ky., Sept. 18, 2012.

Associated Press

tion voiced by special operations troops across the services in 2015, when surveyed on whether women should serve in the dangerous commando jobs. Later that year, in a landmark decision, then-Defense Secretary Ash Carter ordered all combat jobs open to women.

That change followed three years of study and debate, and reflected a formal recognition that thousands of women had served — and many were wounded or killed — on battlefields in Iraq and Afghanistan. Since then, women have made significant strides throughout the military, gaining high level command posts, but the report underscores that significant biases remain.

"I think people's perspectives change when they interact and see the awesome soldiers that are out there," said Lt. Gen. Jonathan Braga, USASOC commander. "I'm talking about personal interactions that I've had with female special operations aviators that have performed some of the most daring denied-area-of-penetration rotary wing insertions in history," Braga said, referring to how special operations pilots carry forces into areas where they are under fire or under threat.

"I don't think anyone in the back of this helicopter is like, 'Man, I wish there was a male pilot. No, they want them to be an awesome pilot.'"

Two years ago, Army special operations leaders ordered a study to identify and eliminate barriers to females serving in their force. USASOC is the first to do this type of study of its specialized force. It's unclear if other services will do similar reviews.

The Army study focused on women serving in operational roles such as Green Berets, Ranger Regiment, aviation and psychological and civil affairs teams. The study and meetings, however, also included women in a wide array of support jobs such as engineers, mechanics, fuelers and communications and intelligence personnel who work with or sometimes accompany commandos on missions. The recommended changes are designed to benefit all females in the command.

The report, which is only now being released, identified a number of major issues, as female soldiers complained of sexism, isolation, poor-fitting and inadequate equipment, and lack of child care and health care, particularly involving pregnancy. They

also expressed an overwhelming belief that they are passed over for jobs that are then given to less qualified men and that they have to do more and be perfect to get respect.

"I have to work hard to prove my excellence, while men have to work hard to prove their mediocrity," one female soldier said.

Many male soldiers said female soldiers are respected and have the same chance for promotions as men. But the numbers dip when asked if women have equal skills.

One male soldier dismissed any idea that women were pursuing career goals, saying women asking for special operations assignments "are looking for a husband, boyfriend or attention." But there also were some who countered that men with negative opinions hadn't worked with women, and that once they did they would realize their value.

All together there are roughly 2,200 female soldiers in USASOC — or nearly 8% of the 29,000 active duty soldiers. There also are 427 female civilians. Of the 2,200, a bit more than 250 are in what would be considered operational jobs with the Green Berets, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, the Ranger Regiment and psy-

chological and civil affairs teams. Four women have passed the grueling course to become Green Berets, and several are serving in those jobs. Seven females are serving in the Ranger Regiment, which totals about 3,000 soldiers.

The report made 42 recommendations. Several involving increased training and messages to the force to expand awareness of sexual harassment, mentorship, health care and other issues, have been done. Other changes are in progress.

Overall, the report said that gender bias is "deeply embedded" in staffing and equipping the special operations force.

And, it reflected confusion. While there is solid agreement that standards cannot be lowered for females, many interpret that as prohibiting any gender-specific accommodations.

"Women may require different tools than men to perform the same task," the report said. "A mentality change is necessary to modify the archaic attitude that supplying tools to female service members is an act of accommodation versus simply providing our warfighters with the right tools for the job."

Key examples are body armor, helmets and rucksacks that are often too big for female soldiers and small-stature men. The Army has been struggling for years to address the body armor problems, and two years ago began distributing short and longer small-sized protective vests and combat shirts designed to better fit women.

Sexual harassment is a common, but complicated complaint.

While nearly every woman in focus groups said she had experienced sexual harassment, only 30% called it a challenge and very few were willing to report or publicly acknowledge it. According to the report, 25 sexual harassment complaints were filed by female special operations command soldiers between 2016 to 2020. □

Donald Trump's bond is set at \$200,000 in Georgia case

By **ALANNA DURKIN RICHER**
and **JILL COLVIN**
Associated Press

Donald Trump's bond has been set at \$200,000 in the Georgia case accusing the former president of illegally scheming to overturn his 2020 election loss, according to court papers filed Monday.

Trump is also barred from intimidating co-defendants, witnesses or victims in the case including on social media according to the bond agreement signed by Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis, Trump's defense attorneys and the judge. It explicitly includes "posts on social media or reposts of posts made by another individual on social media." The order says the former president cannot make any "direct or indirect threat of any nature" against witnesses or co-defendants. He is also prohibited from communicating in any way about the facts of the case with any co-defendant or witness, except through attorneys.

The order sets Trump's bond for the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations or RICO charge at \$80,000, and adds \$10,000



Former President Donald Trump is escorted to a courtroom, April 4, 2023, in New York.

Associated Press

for each of the 12 other counts he is facing. Bond is the amount defendants must pay as a form of collateral to ensure they show up in court ahead of trial. Willis has set a deadline of noon Friday for Trump and his 18 co-defendants to turn themselves in at the Fulton County Jail to be booked. The prosecutor has proposed that arraignments for the defendants follow during the week of

Sept. 5. She has said she wants to try the defendants collectively, and bring the case to trial in March of next year, which would put it in the heat of the presidential nominating season. A Trump spokesman did not immediately respond to a request for comment. A phone message seeking comment was also left for an attorney for the former president. Trump was charged last week in the

case alongside a slew of allies, who prosecutors say conspired to subvert the will of voters in a desperate bid to keep the Republican in the White House after he lost to Democrat Joe Biden. Trump has denied any wrongdoing, and he characterizes the case and three others he is facing as efforts to hurt his 2024 presidential campaign. Trump has been railing against the Fulton County D.A. since

before he was indicted, and he singled out Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp, a Republican who rebuffed his efforts to overturn the election, by name in a social media post Monday morning. Bond was also set Monday for three lawyers who were indicted along with Trump. For each of them, the bond for the RICO charge was set at \$20,000, with varying amounts for the other charges they face. John Eastman and Kenneth Chesebro each had a bond set at \$100,000, while Ray Smith's bond is \$50,000. Bail bondsman Scott Hall, who was accused of participating in a breach of election equipment in rural Coffee County, had his bond set at \$10,000. The Georgia indictment comes just two weeks after the Justice Department special counsel charged Trump in a separate case in a vast conspiracy to overturn the election. Besides the two election-related cases, Trump faces a federal indictment accusing him of illegally hoarding classified documents as well as a New York state case charging him with falsifying business records. □

Clinton Global Initiative will return to New York with Matt Damon

By **GLENN GAMBOA**
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Clinton Global Initiative 2023 will convene "leaders, innovators and dreamers" — ranging from World Bank President Ajay Banga and The Bahamas' Prime Minister Philip E. Davis to Airbnb CEO Brian Chesky, World Central Kitchen founder Jose Andres and Ford Foundation CEO Darren Walker, as well as A-list actors Orlando Bloom, Matt Damon, and Ashley Judd — in New York on Sept. 18 and 19 to keep up the momentum addressing global issues generated by the conference when it returned last year after a six-year hiatus. Former President Bill Clinton, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and Clinton Foundation Vice

Chair Chelsea Clinton announced Monday that the conference would seek more commitments to address climate change, health care issues, gender-based violence, the war in

Ukraine and other issues. "Every day, billions of people around the world, even in the face of the most dire circumstances, make a profound decision to choose hope and keep going,"



Former President Bill Clinton speaks at the Clinton Global Initiative, Monday, Sept. 19, 2022, in New York.

Associated Press

former President Bill Clinton told The Associated Press in an emailed statement. "At CGI, we're focusing on how to move forward in the face of daunting challenges to act now, find new partners, and stick with it to make a positive difference in people's lives."

At the Clinton Global Initiative, or CGI, in 2022, more than 140 commitments were announced, including the \$1 billion plan from Water.org, co-founded by Damon, to help 100 million people in Africa, Asia and Latin America get lasting access to water and sanitation. Damon is set to return to CGI in September to further discuss the issue.

Carolina García Jayaram, CEO of the Elevate Prize Foundation, told The Associated Press that she is

also set to return to the conference to announce the nonprofit's next winner of The Elevate Prize Catalyst Award. Last year, the foundation presented the award to Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai at CGI.

"One very important thing I love about CGI -- and I think Malala really embodied it so powerfully -- is the idea of making a real-time commitment on the stage and challenging the people in the audience, both in person and remotely, to do the same," Jayaram said. "And I think being in the room with so many changemakers and leaders who are making those commitments in real time is almost infectious. It catalyzes more and more people to do the same." □

A decade after a sarin gas attack, Syrian survivors lose hope for justice

By KAREEM CHEHAYEB and
OMAR ALBAM

Associated Press

AFRIN, Syria (AP) — One summer night a decade ago, the al-Shami family was woken up by a roaring sound or rockets but it wasn't followed by the usual explosions. Instead, the family members started having difficulty breathing. Ghiad al-Shami, 26, remembers how everyone tried to run to the rooftop of their apartment building in eastern Ghouta, a Damascus suburb that at the time was held by opposition fighters trying to topple Syrian President Bashar Assad. Al-Shami's mother, three sisters and two brothers died that night victims of the Aug. 21, 2013 sarin gas attack that killed hundreds and left thousands of others hurt.

Ten years on, al-Shami and other survivors say there has been no accountability for the attack and for the other atrocities committed in Syria during the country's brutal civil war, now in its 13th year.



People stand in front of damaged buildings, in the town of Douma, the site of a suspected chemical weapon attack, near Damascus, Syria, on April 16, 2018.

Associated Press

Over the past year, Assad's government accused by the United Nations of repeated chemical weapons attacks on Syrian civilians has been able to break out of its political isolation. Assad was welcomed back to the Arab League,

which had suspended Syria's membership in 2011 following a crackdown on anti-government protests. With the help of top allies Russia and Iran, Assad also recaptured large swaths of territory he initially lost to opposition groups.

"Today, instead of holding perpetrators accountable, Assad is being welcomed back into the Arab League and invited to international conferences, cementing impunity for the most heinous of crimes," said Laila Kiki, executive director of

The Syria Campaign advocacy group.

"To all those who seek to shake hands with Assad, this anniversary should serve as a clear reminder of the atrocities his regime has committed," she said in a statement.

In 2013, Assad was widely held responsible for the eastern Ghouta attack weapons specialists said the rocket systems involved were in the Syrian army's arsenal. The Syrian government has denied ever using chemical weapons. Russia, Syria's prime ally, claims the Ghouta attack was carried out by opposition forces trying to push for foreign military intervention.

The United States threatened military retaliation in the aftermath of the attack, with then-President Barack Obama saying Assad's use of chemical weapons would be Washington's "red line." However, the U.S. public and Congress were wary of a new war, as invasions in Afghanistan and Iraq had turned into quagmires. □

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau slams Facebook for blocking Canada wildfire news

By ROB GILLIES

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORONTO (AP) — Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau accused Facebook on Monday of putting profits over people's safety during the emergencies created by Canada's record wildfire season.

Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram, announced earlier this summer it would keep its promise to block news content from Canada on its platforms because of a new law that requires tech giants to pay publishers for linking to or otherwise repurposing their content online.

Fires raging in Canada have pushed tens of thousands of people from their homes and threatened cities such as Yellowknife, the capital of the Northwest Territories. About 30,000

people were under evacuation orders in British Columbia.

"Right now, in an emergency situation where up to date local information is more important than ever, Facebook is putting corporate profits ahead of people's safety," Trudeau said at a news conference in Cornwall on Prince Edward Island.

"It is so inconceivable that a company like Facebook is choosing to put corporate profits ahead of insuring that local news organizations can get up to date information to Canadians," the prime minister said.

Government ministers called on Meta on Friday to lift its Canada news ban, which applies to local outlets as well as national media such as the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The company, which is

headquartered in Northern California, stood by its decision and said in a statement about the wildfires that people in Canada can continue to use Instagram and Facebook "to connect with their communities and access reputable information, including content from official government agencies, emergency services and non-governmental organizations."

The country's residents and visitors are not able to view or share news on the Meta-owned social networks, including news articles, videos and audio posted by outlets inside or outside of Canada.

Meta has been alone in its action.

Google's owner, Alphabet, also said it planned to remove Canadian news links in response to the new law,

although it hasn't followed through yet. The Online News Act, passed in late June after lengthy debate, is set to take effect later this year.

"This is Facebook's choice," Trudeau said. "In a democracy, quality local journal-

ism matters, and it matters now more than ever before when people are worried about their homes, worried about their communities, worried about the worst summer for extreme events that we've had in a very long time." □



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks to reporters following an announcement at the Island Montessori Academy in Cornwall, Prince Edward Island, Monday, Aug. 21, 2023.

Associated Press

Power cuts in Niger threaten to spoil millions of vaccines as sanctions take their toll, UN says

By **SAM MEDNICK**

Associated Press

NIAMEY, Niger (AP) — The U.N. is spending over 20 times more money than usual on fuel for generators to keep millions of vaccines in Niger from spoiling due to incessant power cuts. The outages are the result of severe economic and travel sanctions imposed by regional countries after mutinous soldiers toppled the country's president last month.

Country representative for the United Nations Children's Fund in Niger, Stefano Savi, told The Associated Press on Monday that it has spent \$200,000 powering generators to keep vaccines, including for polio and rotavirus, across the country cold during the first three weeks of August. That's up from approximately \$10,000 a month previously and might soon run out of money, he said. Niger relies on neighboring Nigeria for up to 90% of its power, but after soldiers ousted democratically elected President Mohamed Bazoum in July, Nigeria cut off part of its electricity supply as part of sanctions imposed by the



Women gather at a clinic to have their children vaccinated in Niamey, Niger, Monday, Aug. 21, 2023.

West African regional bloc, ECOWAS.

The sanctions are taking a toll on the population with the price of goods rising, residents unable to easily access cash, and people living in the dark.

Now there are mounting concerns it will gravely impact the health system, particularly the ability to keep some 28 million vaccine doses in the country

cold.

Although there were power cuts before the sanctions, they usually lasted a few hours, but now the cuts are much longer sometimes up to 18 hours a day, said Savi. UNICEF only has enough money until the end of August and is appealing to donors for emergency funds, he said.

ECOWAS has struggled to stave off coups in the re-

gion Mali and Burkina Faso have had two each since 2020 and views Niger's coup as one too many, imposing harsh sanctions and threatening military force if Bazoum isn't reinstated. While the threat of force hasn't materialized, Niger's junta ignored a deadline to reinstate Bazoum and last week announced it would transition to civilian rule within three years.

Associated Press

During a weekend meeting between junta leader Gen. Abdourahmane Tchiani and a delegation from ECOWAS, Tchiani pushed the bloc to lift the sanctions and said the military was under pressure to ease the suffering on the population, an official in the meeting who was not authorized to speak to the media told AP. The official said Tchiani repeatedly complained about the sanctions but wasn't willing to give much in return.

While none of the vaccines have gone bad yet, there's concern it could happen, say health officials. Most of Niger's roughly 1,300 local health centers are powered by solar panels and able to keep the vaccines cold, but the capital, Niamey and regional and district levels rely on electricity and generators.

"If the situation continues like this, we will run out of diesel fuel, we will not be able to power the room with electricity and we might lose all these vaccines that cost (millions of dollars)," said Mallam Brah Hararou a logistician at the national vaccine center in Niamey. □

Pakistan hands out cash to Christians who lost homes in rioting

By **ASIM TANVEER and MUNIR AHMED**

Associated Press

MULTAN, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistani authorities on Monday handed out thou-

sands of dollars to nearly 100 Christian families whose homes were destroyed or damaged by a Muslim mob angered over an alleged desecration of the Quran last week.

The government of caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar said each household was getting 2 million rupees (\$6,800) in compensation on Monday. Police said they have arrested dozens more rioters in ongoing raids, bringing the total number of those detained over the attacks in the city of Jaranwala to 160. On Wednesday, hundreds of Muslims went on a rampage over allegations that a Christian man and

his friend had desecrated Islam's holy book. Christians who fled their homes to escape the attackers later returned to a scene of destruction. Many have been living outside since, fearing the burned structures may collapse.

The rampage, one of the most destructive in the country's history, drew nationwide condemnation. Kakar on Monday traveled to the area to meet with some of the victims of the attacks and hand out the compensation.

He promised in a televised speech that the state will ensure the protection of minorities, including Christians, Hindus, Sikhs and Ah-

madis.

Kakar said none of the rioters will go unpunished, describing those behind the attacks as "enemies of humanity."

Earlier in the day, Mohsin Naqvi, the top official in Punjab province, where Jaranwala is located, announced the compensations on X, previously known as Twitter. Naqvi visited the city on Sunday and held a meeting of local officials at a burned church.

"They are worried for their safety, they are worried for their children, who witnessed the tragedy and are traumatized," priest Khalid Mukhtar said of the local Christians. □



Christians women hold a demonstration condemning the recent attack on a Christian area by an angry Muslim mob, in Lahore, Pakistan, Sunday, Aug. 20, 2023.

Associated Press

Visit the island's hidden natural pools



(Oranjestad)—Amongst the countless beaches surrounding the island that are well-known and frequently visited, there are an additional two “hidden” natural pools that are situated in the northern coast of the island, two ideal stops in your tour itinerary.

Conchi (Natural Pool)

For many years, Conchi was the only natural pool that we had on the island. Located in the Arikok National Park, near Boca Keto and the Daimari Ranch, Conchi—also known “Cura di Turtuga (Turtle’s Cove) or just Natural Pool—is reachable with any 4x4 vehicle or by foot if you’re up for a long hike. However, since it is part of the National Park, you must first get permission from park management to

enter. You would have to purchase a day pass, and receive a wristband as proof of payment. Once you’ve completed that, you are set!

If you decide to hike from the entrance of the Arikok National Park, this is also possible: do bring plenty of protective clothing and enough water and food—it could take you up to three hours to hike there!

However, when you eventually do get there, you will be greeted with crystal blue water surrounded by a natural rock formation that protects you from the wild waves on the other side. Though the pool is located on the northern side of the island (where the sea is largely rough and largely



no suitable for swimming), the pool itself is very calm. It’s also relatively deep, and you can climb up the rocks and jump in!

Cave Pool

This relatively new pool appeared just a few years ago, when a part of the dried up coral floor broke off and created a partition between the ocean and what is now the natural pool that is hidden there. Because it’s still so new, there is no official name for it, but most people just call it the cave pool.

Just like the Conchi, the new natural pool is situated on the northern coast of Aruba. However, this pool is much easier to reach with any type of vehicle, and there is no hiking needed. This spot has also become a regular stop for touring visitors.

When you get there, maybe you won’t be able to spot the pool immediately, because you will probably notice the moon-shaped lagoon where wild northern waves crash into each other.

Sounds scary, but if you look down on your right, you’ll see a calm, crystal blue little pool in the corner. To get there, you have to climb down some stairs. Be careful when climbing down and follow the instructions of your tour guide if you have one.

And just like Conchi, this pool also has a jumping spot, and a rope to climb back up the boulder. □

Picture of cave pool is credited to RockaBeach Tours

Aruban legends: Frenchman’s Pass

(Oranjestad)—If you ever plan on taking a group tour of the island, you may pass through the Frenchman’s Pass in Balashi. The Frenchman’s pass (known to locals as “Franse Pas”) remains a mysterious—and spooky—road of which its legend is told from generation to generation.

The history of the Frenchman’s pass—and how it got its name—dates back to the colonization era, when the French tried to colonize the island, but were met with an angry mob of indigenous settlers, refusing to give up their land. However, as the French were heavily equipped with fire arms, the indigenous set-

tlers began to retreat, and hid away in nearby caves. The French colonizers tried to smoke them out of the caves, but the indigenous settlers ended up inhaling too much smoke and most died in those caves. From then on, this passage was known as Frenchman’s Pass, and there have been many accounts of spirits roaming the area of Spanish Lagoon.

There are many ghost stories surrounding this area, but one of the most famous one involves a lonely hitchhiker, trying to find a ride back home in the dark rainy night.

Sometime after trying to

hitchhike, the man saw a car approaching, appearing almost ghost-like in the rain. However, since he needed a ride real bad, he didn’t think twice and jumped in. But to his horror, he noticed that there was no driver in the front. Paralyzed with fear, he didn’t dare to get out, and the car started to move.

When approaching a sharp turn, the hitch hiker braced for impact, but just when he thought the car might drive straight off the road and crash, he saw a hand appear out the window and turn the wheel. For the next few turns, the hand appeared again. After having had enough, the



man decided to jump out and he ran to Santa Cruz.

Arriving at a nearby bar, he ordered a drink and began to tell everyone about his experience. Everyone grew quiet, because they realized he wasn’t some drunk messing around; he was telling the truth.

Sometime later, two men walked into the bar and one of them noticed the hitchhiker. He called out to his buddy and said: “Look,

there’s the idiot who sat in our car when we were pushing it!”

French man’s pass is one of the few sites on the island that keeps the locals on their toes. While most ghost stories may not have real grounds—or some may even be a set up story for a joke, this pass contributes a lot to our culture of folkloric story-telling.

Source: visitaruba.com



Rhythms Circus Company Aruba: putting Aruba's name on the world stage



Rhythms Circus Company Aruba is a talented group of young people working daily to present their art in the form of acrobatics, dancing, acting and singing. After an impactful participation in one of America's biggest talent shows, they are now bringing their amazing talent to Aruba!

In a show full of light, music, and with performances to famous musical figures like Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson and Tina Turner, the group consisting of 15 people from various countries delights the audience with their artistic prowess at the Paseo Herencia Mall, every Wednesday and Friday starting at 7pm. Each day has a different show, so you can attend both nights for the complete experience!

The group, under the leadership of directors and creators Diego Jaramillo and Yamila Hernandez are opening the doors to the ballroom to our local audience as well as our visi-

tors so that everyone can have the privilege of experiencing this wonderful show.

Hernandez explained that the idea for this project started in 2010 when she came to work in Aruba. After being on the island for a while she decided to stay and live here, and she met Diego Jaramillo, who is currently her partner. Together they came with the idea to establish a company together with other professional artists, with the goal of living from their art.

Hernandez says that the work is hard – all of the performers are professional artists, and while the production of the show is not a challenge for them, selling the idea proved difficult since at the time, there weren't any shows of its kind on the island.

America's Got Talent

Currently they are offering a show with music, choreography and at the end, they have a shocking acrobatics ending, one that was seen by thousands of people around the world when the group travelled to Los Angeles in the United States to represent Aruba in America's Got Talent. Hernandez said that the show was very important for them to meet the public present because people could experience this performance live and right before their eyes.

Their presentation in America's Got Talent "was incredible" and they were able to meet the jury and many other artists staying there for three months. But the exhaustion and physical toll was so great that Diego suffered an accident, and because of this, they had to cancel all future commitments.



Reservations and tickets

To make a reservation to see this incredible display of creativity and acrobatics, scan the QR code which will take you directly to their website for a booking. To find more information about RCCA, please visit their Instagram page @rccaruba. □



Enjoy one of the best views on Aruba at the top of the Hooiberg Hill



(Oranjestad)—If you are a regular hiker, or maybe want to spice up your morning workout session, then you might enjoy one of the most popular climbing sites on the island: The Hooiberg Hill. Accompanied with a 600-step staircase, this hill overlooks a great part of the island, the Caribbean sea, and sometimes even the Santa Anna mountain located in the coastal state of Falcon in Venezuela, providing one of the best views you can get on Aruba.

located at the center district of the island, Santa Cruz, the Hooiberg Hill is the second highest point on the island at 165 meters above sea level (or about 540 feet above sea level). The highest point is Jamanota Hill at 189 meters

(620 feet), located in the Arikok National Park. The staircase that runs on the side of the hill was first built in 1951, when Mr. Eduardo Tromp constructed it. At that time, the staircase consisted of 900 steps. Over time, as the steps faced erosion, the government decided to renovate these stairs in 1991. This new project delivered the newer staircase with only 587 steps. However, don't be fooled—it may still be a workout to get on top. In addition, there is now a gazebo placed halfway up the stair for a little rest. The view at this resting stop is also a sight to see.

The best time to climb the hill would be early in the morning or right before sunset, as it may not be as hot. However, the hill is of course open all day, every day. □

2,000,000 SUMMER POINT GIVEAWAY – 20 WINNERS DAILY

2X *Double Point Tuesday!*

Earn DOUBLE POINTS all day long!

Use your Players' Club card to play our slots and we'll DOUBLE your points!

THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

Offering a wide variety of Retail & Dining Outlets, Salon & Spa Services, Souvenirs and more.

Dunkin Donuts | Baskin Robbins | Fusion Piano & Wine Bar
Hungry Piranha | Twist of Flavors | Juan Valdez Café
The Brownstone Ribs & Seafood
Auntie Anne's Pretzels

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 3am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 | 583.5000 | casinoalhambra.com

Play Responsibly. Visit www.gamblersanonymous.org if you or someone you know has a gambling problem.



Watch out for Blue Crab Migration near Savaneta



(Oranjestad) — The department of nature & environment in Aruba are urging motorists to watch out for blue crabs crossing the road in Pos Chiquito to make their way to the ocean.

They added a new bright yellow road sign with "Land

Crab Crossing" to remind people to be cautious while driving on the highway on Pos Chiquito with blue crabs.

Blue crabs in Aruba are found plenty near the beach areas, especially in Pos Chiquito, because of the amount of mangroves.



They are known to dig holes deep in the beach sand in seek of humidity. The diet of blue crabs consists of decomposed trees, insects, scorpions and rest of dead animals.

Nesting season for blue crabs is between June & July.

Why protect blue crabs?

Because they are of high value for the ecology of the mangroves. Conserving the blue crabs is crucial for the preservation of mangroves.

Watch out for crossing blue crabs on the highway near Pos Chiquito & Santo Largo. □

The Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island

Recently, Ms. Marouska Heyliger had the great pleasure to honor a Loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Distinguished Visitors at their home away from home.

The honorees: Mr. and Mrs. David and Marilyn Brown from Pennsylvania (Team Brown)

The symbolic honorary title



is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years. Ms. Marouska Heyliger thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home

for so many years together with the members of Rehoboth Boutique Hotel

Top reasons for returning provided by the honorees were: Aruba's hospitality of the residents, Beautiful sunny weather and beautiful blue waters with white sanded beaches. □

Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back or still enjoying your vacation?... we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and



any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. □

Episode 38: A Scientific journey across the island

It was in the first week of January 1885; Aruba had received an interesting visitor in the person of a German Professor, Dr. K. Martin of the Leyden University who was a passionate Geologist with a special interest in moths and butterflies. He came for agro-geological research, but left a book of cultural- historical value and he was accompanied by the students Van der Pol, De Haan and Molengraaff, and also by Professor Dr. Suringa. The island journey was planned to start on the 29th of January, at six o'clock in the morning. Professor Martin is the one who will narrate his adventure: "We were to depart, but we were about to experience that time is something scarcely heeded on Aruba for of the five donkeys and three servants we had managed to obtain with great difficulty the previous evening nothing was as yet to be seen. True, our guide gave himself every conceivable trouble to accelerate our journey, but only after the lapse of more than an hour was everything ready, the donkeys with their saddles and girths having meanwhile been wetted through by a sudden shower."

Past Hooiberg and the picturesque fields the company journeyed to Santa Cruz, reaching the road via Spanish Lagoon in order to go from there to the extreme eastern point of the island, Ceru Colorado.

"For a considerable time masses of stone having the height of good-sized houses and consisting of heavy worn-off diorite rocks grayly striped by the weather are the only objects arresting our attention in the midst of the high cacti surrounding them, for the sandy soil stretching between is very thinly covered with plants and its monotonous hue is rather enlivened by the bluish green backs of lizards than by any vegetation. Our eyes are aching and we prefer to lift our glance from the shade less road."



He continues his story: "About noon we arrived at Spanish Lagoon on the south-west coast of the island, where we encountered numerous petrifications. Behind this lagoon a few coconut trees offered a shady place of repose on the alluvial sol. But any attempt to lie down on the ground and stretch our limbs was prevented by the stony surface of this extremely thinly grown spot. Our boxes were taken off the donkeys, and we sat down on them whilst the animals were being watered, coconuts provided

us with a refreshing beverage, the enjoyment of which was not spoiled by our having procured them in an illicit manner. After scarcely an hour's rest the insistent thought of the long distance we still had to cover made us rise again."

From then on their way without interruption led across coral formations arisen in later times and bordering the west coast of the island. The uniformity of the landscape, the barren rock-soil and the sea baffle every description. In the plain stretching far

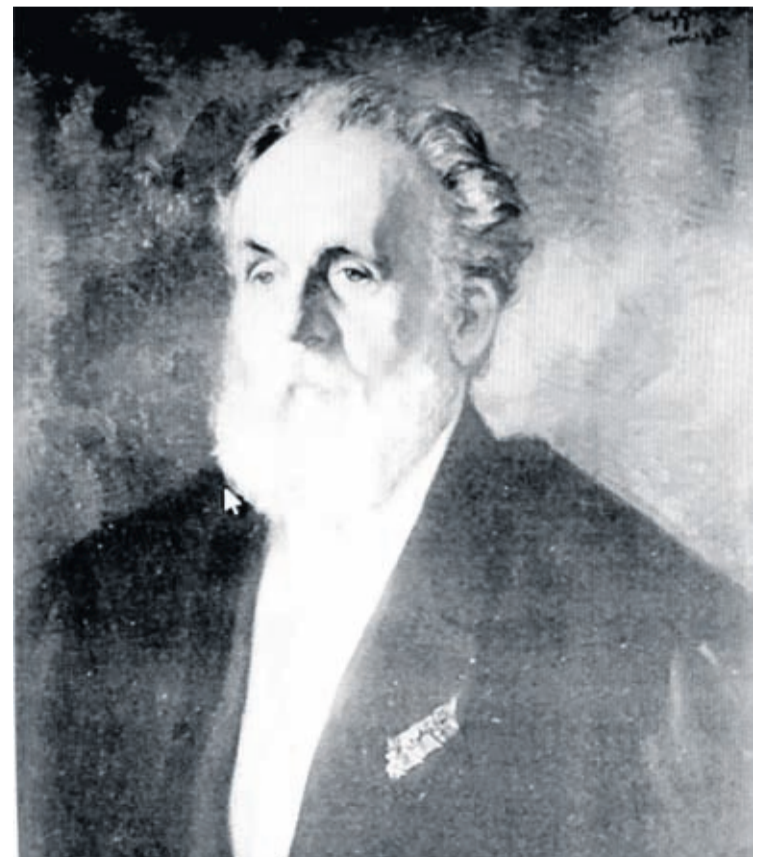


and wide before them the big Strombus and cone-shaped boulders were the only objects on which the eye could rest.

"Under these circumstances it was an agreeable diversion to see the scenery enlivened by some human beings, at whose behavior we could not help laughing at times. They were a couple of boys who had drawn water from a small well dug into the coral and were carrying it in tubs on the backs of donkeys to their far homesteads. One of them had a big drum, a musical instrument whose existence in this region deserted of all mortals I am as yet unable to explain but whose sound appeared to fascinate our worn-out animals. However that may be, we were entertained by this music walking some way in front of us and it is with thank-fullness that I

always think back to this benefaction, for our lazy donkeys kept pace with those plodding before us and when they finally left us we already arrived at Sint Nicolaas. There, in the distance, on the blue waves, we discerned the white sails of the Essex, which had taken us to Aruba yesterday and was now struggling close-hauled against the trade wind on her voyage back to Curacao."

To get to know more about Aruba's stories of origins, about animals and culture, art and desert gardens you can visit Etnia Nativa. Our renowned cultural encounter session has been entertaining curious participants for decades. Mail us at etniana03@gmail.com to confirm your participation. Our facilities and activities take place close to high rise hotels. □



National Park Arikok: Aruba's biggest nature conservation

The National Park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There are numerous animals to discover, for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the islands past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches—a very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

Nature Conservation

The protected area of National Park Arikok was officially established in 2000. Arikok National Park is a 34 square kilometers (7907 acres) of natural area, located at the north-eastern part of Aruba which contains examples of most of the island's flora and fauna against a backdrop of great geological complexity. We are proud to state that approximately 18% of the total land area of Aruba is assigned as a National Park, to protect and preserve the flora, fauna, geology and historical remains present within Arikok



National Park.

The Landscape

There is a great geological variety within the park. The main aspects are the rough hills of the volcanic Aruba lava formation, the mysterious rocks of the batholithic quartz-diorite/tonalite, and the limestone rocks from fossilized coral. The two tallest hills on the island are situated within the park. Jamanota hill 188 meters (617 ft) and Arikok hill 176 meters (577 ft), from which the name of the park is derived.

The line of the permanently wind-and-wave beaten North Coast is broken by several bays (boca's). Most of them are small yet impressive inlets at the mouth of dry riverbeds. Some of these bays (boca's) are spectacular sights,

adorned with white, sandy beaches and sand dunes, as is the case at Boca Prins and Dos Playa.

Arikok is also home to Conchi, Aruba's most important natural attraction; also known as The Natural Pool. The journey to the Pool is and adventure by itself and only possible by foot, horse, ATV or 4x4 vehicle.

Cultural and Historical components

There are a number of sites within the park that attest to the history of Aruba. The Caquetío Indians left rock paintings in Cunucu Arikok and Fontein Cave. The bird drawing in the park logo is a copy of one of these historical artistic expressions.

Old plantation (Cunucus) sites tell the story of an active yet challenging agri-

cultural past. These Cunucus were also residential areas for the few families that worked the land. These families found ways to survive in the difficult conditions, and were able to erect their homes with materials found in the area. Two of these

Park Management

For the management of the park, a dedicated foundation "Fundacion Parke Nacional Arikok" (FPNA), known today as the Aruba National Park Foundation was established in July 2003. In February 2017, mangrove and wetland RAMSAR site #198 Spanish Lagoon was annexed to Arikok National Park due to its importance as a feeding and breeding area for water birds and as a nursery area for a variety of marine organisms. With this addition, the areas under FPNA management increased by 70 hectares while the amount of species of flora and fauna to be conserved to over 250. On December 21st, 2018 (AB 2018 no. 77) Parke Marino Aruba – currently consisting of four marine protected areas (MPAs) – was officially established and subsequently brought under management of FPNA. In 2019 management plans will be established for the new MPAs which include: coral reefs, sea grass beds, mangrove systems, a large diversity of breeding seabirds. Parke Marino Aruba also contains potential shark nursery areas, endangered sea turtle nesting beaches and marine mammal nursery areas. □



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Dagger or cannon
- 7 Chore
- 11 Candidate of 2000
- 12 Lotion additive
- 13 Prom activity
- 15 Baseball's Jeter
- 16 Crystal gazer
- 18 Swiss peaks
- 21 Ship pole
- 22 Chop-house offerings
- 24 Assn.'s kin
- 25 Twosome
- 26 Chart model
- 27 Increase
- 29 Component
- 30 Rocker Clapton
- 31 Shaker fill
- 32 Toil
- 34 Glibly persuasive
- 40 Nevada neighbor
- 41 Evening party
- 42 "Ratatouille" rat
- 43 Manor setting

DOWN

- 1 Used to be
- 2 Building wing
- 3 In the past
- 4 Light, dry snow
- 5 Command
- 6 Close by
- 7 Fishing gear
- 8 Boxing great
- 9 Junior, to senior
- 10 Beer bash need
- 14 "Keen!"
- 16 Binge
- 17 Raring to go
- 19 Vatican-based

T	O	S	C	A	P	E	C	O	S
A	F	O	O	L	A	R	O	M	A
C	A	P	R	I	P	R	O	N	G
			I	G	O	R	L	I	E
O	C	E	A	N	A	I	R		
R	E	I	N		S	K	E	T	C
C	O	N	D	O		A	D	O	R
A	S	S	E	R	T		P	O	U
			R	E	A	R	E	N	D
D	E	F		G	O	O	P		
I	D	I	N	A		O	P	E	R
L	I	N	E	N		S	E	T	U
L	E	N	T	O		T	R	A	M

Yesterday's answer

- 20 Kilt's cousin
- 21 Cry loudly
- 22 Dine late
- 23 Harden
- 25 Old gold coin
- 28 Extremely dirty
- 29 "Sit down!"
- 31 Flies alone
- 33 Acid's opposite
- 34 Stole stuff
- 35 Had a feast
- 36 Sleuth Spade
- 37 Lyricist Gershwin
- 38 Volleyball need
- 39 "My word!"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11						2			
13						14			
			15						
	16	17				18		19	20
21					22				23
24				25			26		
27			28				29		
	30					31			
			32		33				
34	35	36					37	38	39
40						41			
42						43			

8-22

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three U's. X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-22

CRYPTOQUOTE

K F F Q Z V L L F Y M Z U O F X

G N E M X F Z Z D M X K Z

Y F Z Q F T A N W M G M A H . — Z N L

I F F X

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: TOWARDS THE CONCLUSION OF OUR WALK WE MAKE SUCH DEPLORABLY RAGGED FIGURES. — ELIZABETH CARTER

Create a care plan for older parents (or yourself)

By LIZ WESTON
of NerdWallet

At some point, most older people will need help getting through the day. Someone turning 65 today has a 70% chance of eventually requiring assistance with basic living activities, such as bathing, dressing and using the toilet, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

That's the grim reality. Even grimmer is that Medicare typically doesn't pay for such help. Plus, families often don't try to figure out how to provide this care until there is a health crisis, which can lead to unnecessary stress, conflicts and escalating costs, says certified financial planner and physician Carolyn McClanahan of Life Planning Partners in Jacksonville, Florida. Making a care plan well in advance allows families to get organized, locate appropriate resources and figure out ways to pay for care before a crisis hits.

"A care plan is thinking through the logistics of what you're going to need as you age, so that when the poop hits the fan with aging, then you are prepared," McClanahan says.

DEAL WITH DENIAL FIRST

The biggest barrier can be our own wishful thinking, says Katy Butler, author of the books "The Art of Dying Well" and "Knocking on Heaven's Door." We want to picture a perfectly healthy life followed, if absolutely necessary, by a quick and painless death. The reality may be quite different, and that can be awful to contemplate, Butler acknowledges.

One way to cope is to plan



This undated file photo provided by NerdWallet shows Liz Weston, a columnist for personal finance website NerdWallet.com. Associated Press

for temporary rather than permanent disability. For example, what kind of help might you or your loved one need after a hip or knee replacement? How well is the home set up for recovery? Who would help with household tasks? Contemplating a two- or three-month disability with an eventual return to health is less daunting, but involves much of the same planning as a more lasting decline, says Butler, who lives in Mill Valley, California. "I think that really would help people visualize without terrifying them," Butler says.

THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU'LL GET CARE

Many people want to remain in their current homes as they age, something called "aging in place." That typically means relying on family members for care, or using paid workers, or both. If family members will be tapped, discuss the

logistics, including whether and how much they will be paid. If home health aides will be hired, consider who will supervise the process. Costs can mount quickly. Nationally, a full-time home health aide costs an average of \$5,148 a month, according to long-term care insurer Genworth. (You can use Genworth's cost of care calculator to estimate costs in your area.)

EXPLORE WAYS TO COVER COSTS

Are there savings that can be tapped? Does the older person have long-term care insurance or can they get a reverse mortgage? Will other family members chip in? Does the older person qualify for government help, such as veterans benefits, Medicaid or state programs? Benefitscheckup.org, a site run by the nonprofit National Council on Aging, can help you search for resources that help people age in place.

Honey Dolls
MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

Beautiful Latin Girls
Pick-up & Delivery

Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

+297 565-9535

WWW.PLEASUREINARUBA.COM

Condo For sale

Noord
15 min walk to beach
2 BR 2 Bath
Price :\$ 395 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Classifieds

Marriott surf club
Palm beach
2 BR Ocean Front
Gold season
Price : \$ 17 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.com

House For sale
Spaans lagoon
3 Bedroom 2 Bath
Walk to the beach
Price :\$650 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Fixer upper
Barcadera property Land
3440 m2 with a 2 BR 1 Bath
House
Price :\$ 250 K
Call:011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Great investment opportunity
House with 3x 1 BR and 1 x 2
Bedroom
With pool near zeerover in
savaneta
Across the water its come with 3
Jeep and 5 UTV
Price : \$ 3,7 Million
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Great investment opportunity
42 condominium to be build
Palm beach 5 min walk to the
beach
30 % construction done
Price : \$ 5 Million
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Great investment opportunity
2656 m2 lease land on eagle
beach
12 office spaces approved to
build
Next to Gloria
Price \$ 750 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
Johnnypaesch@gmail.com

House For sale
Savaneta lease land
400 m2 (4305,564 sq feet)
1 BR , 1 Bath
Ocean Front
Price : \$ 800 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

House For Sale
Noord 10 min drive to palm
beach
Super market , gas station
3 BR 2 Bath
Price : \$ 350 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

House for sale
Saliña serka
Fixer upper
3 BR 2 Bath with apartment
Price :\$325 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Renaissance ocean suites
Private islands
1 BR Week # 32 room # 2115
Ground floor
Pool / Ocean view
Price : \$ 6500
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

House for sale
Kamay Noord
3 BR 2 Bath
10 min walk to palm beach
Price : \$650 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

House For sale
Pos abow near
Super food Pizza Hut
10 min walk to eagle beach
3 BR 2 Bath with pool
Price :\$ 325 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Condo
Pearl Eagle Beach
2 BR 2 Bath
5 min walk to best beach in the
Caribbean
Price :\$450 K
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Property land
Palm beach 771 m2 (8298,875
sq feet)
Prime location near a condo
project
5 min walk to palm beach
Price :\$ 252,800
Call : 011-297-630 -1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Great investment opportunity
Property land 5000m2
(53819,552 sq feet) on eagle
beach
Price : \$ 6,4 million American
dollar
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Great investment opportunity
Property land
13,401m2 (144247,163 sq feet)
2 KM away from Eagle Beach
Bubali Aruba
Price : US 2,950,000,00
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

HTTA
Time - Share resale and Condo
Are you interested in sell your
Time -Share or Condo in Aruba
Call the experts 37 years doing
honest
Business on the islands
Call : 011-297-630-1307
Johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Divi Village Golf
Eagle Beach
1 BR Week # 33 room # 4120
29 weeks remain on the contract
Price: 7 K
Call : 011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

**Ambassador suites /
Casa del Mar**
Eagle beach
1 BR and 2 BR for sale
From week 14 to 50
1 BR prices start at \$2400
2 BR prices start at \$6000
Call : 011-297-630-1307 for
inventory or email me at: johnny-
paesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

Eagle Resort
Eagle beach
1 BR WK # 33 room # 326 A
1 BR WK # 34 room # 2555 G
Price : \$ 6 K each
Call :011-297-630-1307
johnnypaesch@gmail.com
www.halleytimetravelaruba.online

216914



Editor
Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Editors

Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks
Angenette Figuereo

Sales

Mark Gomes
Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800
E: news@arubatoday.com
W: www.arubatoday.com
@arubatoday



HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel.524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:
Central: Tel. 585 1965
Aloe : Tel. 584 4606

Women in Difficulties

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



'Strays' is furry, foul, filthy, feculent and occasionally funny

By **JOCELYN NOVECK**
AP National Writer

Hey there, fellow obsessive dog owner. Ever wonder what your beloved pooch is thinking? Of course you do. If they could only tell us what's on their minds, right?

Well, in "Strays," an aggressively raunchy, gleefully gross and only occasionally truly funny comedy voiced by Will Ferrell and Jamie Foxx, we find out. Turns out our canine friends are endlessly curious about why we collect their poop in little plastic bags. It must be for something really important, they surmise. But what? And why do we keep needing more?

It's actually one of the film's cleverer jokes, and Foxx's Boston terrier, Bug, has an opinion on the matter but we won't elaborate because it's kinda gross. There's a lot of gross, both kinda and mega, over this film's 93-minute running time. Also a lot of poop jokes, and penis jokes, both canine and human. You get the picture. Although some of these pictures may stay in your mind for way longer than you'd like.



This image released by Universal Pictures shows, from left, Bug, voiced by Jamie Foxx, Reggie, voiced by Will Ferrell, Maggie, voiced by Isla Fisher, and Hunter, voiced by Randall Park, in a scene from "Strays."

"Strays," directed by Josh Greenbaum with a script by Dan Perrault, begins with its star, Reggie, a border terrier with a furiously upbeat attitude, declaring that "today is the best day ever because every day is the best day ever!" Hmm, where else have we heard virtually that same line ... Oh yes, in "Barbie"! The

resemblance pretty much stops there.

Reggie, voiced by Ferrell with relentless puppy-like innocence, loves his owner, Doug. But Doug doesn't love him back. Let's stop here to note that in this film, real dogs play the four leading canines kudos to their hardworking trainers and humans appear in

supporting roles, including one celebrity cameo and also Will Forte as the most odious dog owner you've ever met. Forte's Doug is particularly vile to Reggie, because it's Reggie who dug up (literally) incriminating evidence that Doug was two-timing his girlfriend, leading to her exit. Doug held onto her dog

Associated Press

solely out of spite. He never plays with Reggie or takes him outside, except to play a profanely titled "game" in which Doug drives him somewhere and tosses a tennis ball, then drives away, hoping he won't return. But he always does.

But one day Doug takes Reggie far, far away and the poor pooch can't find his way back. In this gritty urban setting, he meets the strays led by Bug (Foxx). Not exactly strays, but taking some time in the streets for various reasons, are sexy Australian Shepherd Maggie (Isla Fisher), and Hunter (Randall Park), a Great Dane with anxiety issues.

The group welcomes Reggie, who wants nothing more than to get home, and introduces him to the adventurous life of a stray. Rule number one: If you want to own something, pee on it. The other rules are too risqué to describe here.

Reggie's new friends soon make him understand that his owner actually abandoned him. It's a tough moment. "Maybe I should talk to him, since I'm a therapy dog," says Hunter. □

'Barbie' for \$4? National Cinema Day is coming, with discounted tickets nationwide

By **JAKE COYLE**
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Still haven't seen "Barbie" or "Oppenheimer"? This

Sunday, you'll be able to catch up for \$4 a ticket in movie theaters nationwide. Theater owners announced Monday that the

second annual National Cinema Day will be held Sunday, Aug. 27. For one day, all movies in all formats and at all showtimes will be \$4 at participating theaters. More than 3,000 theaters are participating, which accounts for most of the cinemas in the U.S., including the leading chains AMC and Regal.

It's the second straight year theaters are trotting out the one-day event at the tail end of summer. Last year's inaugural National Cinema Day, put on by the Cinema Foundation, a nonprofit affiliate of the National Association of Theater Owners, was judged an enormous success. An estimated 8.1 million moviegoers bought \$3 tickets on Saturday,

Sept. 3. The average movie ticket in 2022, according to NATO, cost \$10.53.

The discount gimmick turned into the highest attended day of the year for theaters. A normally quiet time instead saw cinemas crowded with moviegoers and theaters sold plenty of popcorn. This year, the day is moving up slightly on the calendar, shifting from Saturday to Sunday, and costs \$1 more.

But thanks to remarkably sustained interest in "Barbie," as well as in "Oppenheimer," the August box office has been booming. The summer box office is up to \$3.8 billion in ticket sales through Sunday, according to data firm Comscore about 16.6% ahead of 2022

at the same point.

While last year's Cinema Day had fairly paltry offerings ("Top Gun: Maverick" was the top draw, more than two months after it opened), this year's will feature "Barbie" in its fifth week. Greta Gerwig's record-breaking film has made \$1.28 billion worldwide. There's also Christopher Nolan's "Oppenheimer" (\$717.8 million globally), the second week of the DC Comics film "Blue Beetle" and new releases "Gran Turismo," "Golda," "Bottoms" and "Retribution." The event is also a way for studios to sell audiences on their fall lineups. A sneak peek of anticipated autumn releases will play before each screening. □



A patron buys a movie ticket underneath a marquee featuring the films "Barbie" and "Oppenheimer" at the Los Feliz Theatre, Friday, July 28, 2023, in Los Angeles

Associated Press

USA Basketball striking blend of focus and fun on World Cup journey

By TIM REYNOLDS

AP Basketball Writer

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — This was the last act of the World Cup preseason for Team USA.

A few hours before flying to the Philippines on Monday for its World Cup stay, a good portion of the USA Basketball travel party — some players and family members, along with coaches and staff — visited the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi, a magnificent center of worship that has seen the likes of Pope Francis, President Joe Biden, King Charles III and Rihanna shed their shoes to step on its gleaming white marble floor in recent years.

Mikal Bridges and Cam Johnson posed for photos with tour guides. Erik Spoelstra marveled at what he saw. Steve Kerr got a bunch of pictures with his wife. And when the tours were done, nobody was in a hurry to leave.

"I had to see the mosque," Kerr, the U.S. coach for the World Cup, said earlier in the week. "It looks amazing." Some who made the trip halfway around the world to be part of the experience have ridden camels. Others went to the Ferrari World amusement park, some played golf, some shopped or visited the Louvre Abu Dhabi. There was plenty of time to chill at the pool or walk along the sand



United States' Austin Reaves (15) shoots over Puerto Rico's Stephen Thompson Jr., right, during the first half of an exhibition basketball game Monday, Aug. 7, 2023, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

as the 102-degree bath water of the Persian Gulf gently lapped the shore. But now, Manila awaits. The World Cup is finally here.

"I know everyone's going to be focused on who wins, and obviously we are — we desperately want to win," Kerr said. "But this is an incredible experience, too, for our players, our coaches, our families to see the world, to really experience competition at the highest form all over the globe. What an experience. I think our guys are loving it."

Winning helps. The Americans played five exhibition games this summer and won them all, rallying from a 16-point deficit in the sec-

ond half to cap that stretch Sunday with a 99-91 comeback victory over Germany. The team was confident in its chances before Sunday, and that win only heightened those feelings. They've enjoyed every second of the trip so far.

"I was with my family and I was walking through the hotel and someone's screaming 'Austin, can I take a picture?'" said U.S. guard Austin Reaves of the Los Angeles Lakers. "For that to happen over here, it's special to me. I never take any of that for granted. Anytime I can try to sign anything for anybody, I try to sign everything. For me, it's special. It's something

one day I will look back at and smile about."

U.S. forward Bobby Portis was in Abu Dhabi last year as well; he and the Milwaukee Bucks flew over to play in the preseason against the Atlanta Hawks. He got a kandura — the traditional white long-sleeved robe — and matching headdress on that trip and wore them to the arena Sunday for the Americans' finale in the desert.

He brought his family on the trip.

"I had to bring them on this journey," Portis said. "They keep me going."

It's a new experience for almost everyone on the trip. Some players hadn't

been to Abu Dhabi, some haven't been to Manila and some hadn't been to Spain — which was the first of three international stops for the Americans this summer.

U.S. center Walker Kessler of the Utah Jazz hadn't been anywhere overseas. Same goes for U.S. guard Tyrese Haliburton of the Indiana Pacers.

"I get paid a lot of money to play a child's game and I get a lot of opportunities that people would kill for just because I'm good at a sport," Haliburton said. "Sometimes perspective matters. I brought my mom and dad and my girlfriend. My mom and dad have never been to any of these places. Probably dreamed of traveling like this. Now they get to do that and watch their son play basketball? It's such a blessing that a ball can take you to these places."

When the mosque trip was over Monday, the travel party headed back to the hotel to get ready for the nine-hour overnight flight to Manila. The World Cup favorites were scheduled to arrive in the basketball-crazed Philippines on Tuesday morning, and then a few days of practice will await before the Americans play their tournament opener on Saturday against New Zealand.

Vacation is over. It'll be time to lock in on winning a World Cup. □

Simona Halep was dropped from the U.S. Open field because of a provisional doping suspension

NEW YORK (AP) — Simona Halep was dropped from the U.S. Open field on Monday because of a provisional doping suspension. The U.S. Tennis Association announced that Halep, a two-time Grand Slam champion and former No. 1-ranked player, "was automatically withdrawn" when the tournament's qualifying draw was held.

Halep's spot in the main draw for the women's singles tournament in Flushing Meadows went to Taylor

Townsend. Play begins on Aug. 28.

During a provisional suspension, a player is ineligible to compete in or attend any sanctioned events.

Halep tested positive at last year's U.S. Open for the banned substance Roxadustat, according to the International Tennis Integrity Agency.

That is a drug approved for medical use in the European Union to treat the symptoms of anemia caused by chronic kidney

failure. According to the EU's medicines agency, it stimulates the body to produce more of the natural hormone erythropoietin, or EPO, which has long been a doping product favored by cyclists and distance runners.

Halep was accused of a second doping offense in May for irregularities in her Athlete Biological Passport.

She was seeded No. 7 in New York in 2022 and lost in the first round to Daria



Simona Halep, of Romania, returns a shot to Daria Snigur, of Ukraine, during the first round of the U.S. Open tennis championships Aug. 29, 2022, in New York.

Associated Press

Snigur of Ukraine.

Halep is a 31-year-old from Romania who first reached No. 1 in the WTA rankings in 2017. She won the French

Open in 2018 by beating Sloane Stephens in the final, and Wimbledon in 2019 by defeating Serena Williams in the title match. □

American Sha'Carri Richardson caps comeback by winning wild 100 meters at worlds

By **EDDIE PELLIS**

AP National Writer

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) —

American Sha'Carri Richardson won the women's 100-meter world title Monday, outstripping a star-studded field to take a gold medal two years after a positive marijuana test derailed her Olympic dreams. Running on the far outside in Lane 9, Richardson finished in 10.65 seconds to match the year's best time and set the world-championship record.

She beat Jamaicans Shericka Jackson by .07 seconds and five-time champion Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce by .12. "I'm here, I told y'all," she told the track announcer right after the race. "I'm not back, I'm better."

This was Richardson's first major competition on the world stage and she was listed as a 5-1 underdog even though she came in as the American champion and had bested Jackson, who also has run 10.65 this year, the previous two times they met in 2023.

The race featured four of the eight fastest runners of all time, including Marie-Josée Ta Lou, who finished fourth.

Though it was clear Richardson had finished ahead of all those runners to her left in the gold-medal race, the 23-year-old looked



Sha'Carri Richardson, of the United States, reacts after crossing the finish line to win the gold medal in the Women's 100-meter final during the World Athletics Championships in Budapest, Hungary, Monday, Aug. 21, 2023.

stunned when she crossed the line.

She blew a kiss toward the sky, cast her eyes on that beautiful scoreboard and walked toward the stands in a daze to accept the American flag and congratulations from Fraser-Pryce, Dina Asher-Smith of Britain and others.

What a comeback story it was — and just in time for the buildup to the Paris Olympics, which start less than 12 months from now. Richardson appeared ready to become Ameri-

ca's next sprint star when she cruised to a win at Olympic trials two years ago. But that victory quickly came off the books after she tested positive for marijuana — a doping violation she readily admitted, saying she was in a bad place after the recent death of her mom.

A raucous debate ensued over whether marijuana, not a performance enhancer, really belonged on the banned list (it's still there), and also whether regulators were too keen

to go after a young, outspoken, Black, American woman (they said everyone is subject to the same rules).

After a few unsuccessful comeback attempts — she finished an embarrassing last at a much-hyped return a few weeks after the Tokyo Olympics — Richardson finally started rounding into form to start 2023. About a year ago, she bared her soul in a live chat on social media, urging people to find their true selves, much the way she had done.

Associated Press

She also found herself on the track, and when the biggest race this side of the Olympics was over Monday night, everyone was looking at her.

She did it with a lot going against her.

The vagaries of track and field's rulebook had placed her in the so-called Semifinal of Death, paired against Jackson and Ta Lou in a race, with only the top two guaranteed spots in the final.

In that semifinal, Richardson got off to a wretched start and had to rally from seventh to finish third in 10.84. Her time was the fastest among all nonqualifiers, so she made it. But a mere 70 minutes later, she was out in Lane 9 for the final, as tough a spot as there is because there's no way to feel how the top contenders — or anyone, really — is doing.

When Jackson, running in Lane 4, crossed the line, she looked up as though maybe she had won.

But no. It was Richardson crossing first and becoming the first American to win the 100 world title since the late Tori Bowie in 2017. She also stopped Fraser-Pryce, who had won in 2019 and 2022, from matching pole vaulter Sergey Bubka's record of six world titles in an individual discipline. □



Michigan head coach Jim Harbaugh gestures during the first half of the Fiesta Bowl NCAA college football semifinal playoff game against TCU, Saturday, Dec. 31, 2022, in Glendale, Ariz.

Associated Press

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**

AP College Football Writer

Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh will serve a three-game suspension to start this season as part of self-

imposed penalties for NCAA recruiting infractions. The suspension announced Monday will take Harbaugh off the sideline for the second-ranked Wolver-

Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh to serve 3-game suspension to open season

ines' home games against East Carolina, UNLV and Bowling Green. He will be permitted to coach the team during the week, as per NCAA rules.

"While the ongoing NCAA matter continues through the NCAA process, today's announcement is our way of addressing mistakes that our department has agreed to in an attempt to further that process," Michigan athletic director Warde Manuel said. "We will continue to support coach Harbaugh, his staff, and our outstanding

student-athletes. Per the NCAA's guidelines, we cannot comment further until the matter is resolved."

Michigan said interim coaching appointments would be announced at a later date. "I will continue to do what I always do and what I always tell our players and my kids at home, 'Don't get bitter, get better,'" Harbaugh said in a statement. The Wolverines are coming off its second straight Big Ten championship and College Football Playoff appearance under Harbaugh, who is 74-25 in

eight seasons at his alma mater. Michigan had proposed a four-game suspension as part of a negotiated resolution to the case with NCAA enforcement staff, but the association's committee on infractions reportedly declined to accept that proposal. Without confirming the status of the negotiated resolution, which was submitted by Michigan to the NCAA last month, the NCAA put out a terse statement in response to reports that the settlement was in danger of not being accepted. □